

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claim 7 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1 and 8 as shown below:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A gateway apparatus connected to a first network and a second network and for controlling the operation of ~~an apparatus or~~ a plurality of apparatuses of control objective, which have the same function and which are connected to said first network, depending on instructions directed to said second network by an instructing apparatus connected to said first network for said ~~apparatus or plurality of~~ apparatuses of control objective, the gateway apparatus comprising:

monitoring means monitoring a flow of the instructions, for controlling the operation of said ~~apparatus or plurality of~~ apparatuses of control objective, directed to said second network by said instructing apparatus;

control signal outputting means of outputting a control signal for controlling the operation of said apparatuses of control objective depending on the instructions received when said flow of the instructions is monitored by said monitoring means; ~~and~~

identification information storing means for storing the identification information of each of said apparatuses of control objective [[,]]; and

data converting means for converting the data from said second network into data available for said instructing apparatus, wherein

~~said identification information identifies each said apparatus and identifies functions performable by each said apparatus together with a description of each function, and~~

said control signal outputting means outputs said control signal by using said identification information stored in said identification information storing means, and

depending on said identification information, said data converting means replaces the data from said second network with respect to the status of said apparatuses of control objective, and sends the replaced data to said instructing apparatus.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A gateway apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising control information setting means for setting control information for controlling the operation of said apparatus or plurality of apparatuses of control objective, wherein

said control signal outputting means outputs said control signal by using said control information set in said control information setting means.

Claim 3 (original): A gateway apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said control information is set in said control information setting means by an access from said instructing apparatus, by a user's input operation, or by an access from said apparatuses of control objective.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (original): A gateway apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said identification information is stored in said identification information storing means by an access from said instructing apparatus, by a user's input operation, or by an access from said apparatuses of control objective.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A gateway apparatus according to Claim 4, further comprising device identification information acquiring means of acquiring said identification information of

each of said apparatuses of control objective from said apparatus or plurality of apparatuses of control objective, wherein

said identification information storing means stores said identification information obtained by said device identification information acquiring means.

Claim 7 (canceled):

Claim 8 (currently amended): A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions for causing a computer to serve as a gateway apparatus connected to a first network and a second network and for controlling operation of ~~an apparatus or~~ a plurality of apparatuses which have the same function and are connected to said first network, depending on instructions directed to said second network by an instructing apparatus connected to said first network, said gateway apparatus:

monitoring a flow of instructions for controlling the operation of said ~~apparatus or~~ plurality of apparatuses by said instructing apparatus;

outputting a control signal for controlling the operation of said apparatus or plurality of apparatuses depending on the instructions received when said flow of instructions is monitored; and

storing identification information for each of said apparatuses, and
converting the data from said second network into data available for said instructing apparatus, wherein

~~said identification information identifies each said apparatus and identifies functions performable by each said apparatus together with a description of each function, and~~

outputting of said control signal includes using said identification information, and

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depending on said identification information, data from said second network with respect to the status of said apparatuses of control objective is sent to said instructing apparatus.